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### **Police Kill 14 Suspected Kidnappers, Arrest 3**

03 Nov 2012

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By Ernest Chinwo in Port Harcourt

The Police and other security operatives yesterday killed 14 suspected members of a gang that specialised in kidnapping, killing and armed robbery in Port Harcourt and its environs.

THISDAY gathered that acting on a tip off, a team of policemen and men of the Anti-kidnapping Unit (AKU), 2 Amphibious Brigade, Nigerian Army in an attempt to rescue a Turkish national, identified as Biram Karakus, burst into the hideout of the kidnappers in the wee hours of Friday.

On arrival at their hideout in Kaani, Khana Local Government Area of Rivers State, the suspects opened fire on the security operatives and in the ensuing exchange 14 of them were fatally injured.

The Police said the suspects, including leader of the gang, known as Bishop Nelly, died on their way to the hospital as a result of the injuries they sustained during the shoot-out.

Three other members of the gang, including two ladies, who also sustained gun-shot injuries, were arrested.

It was gathered that Nelly had benefited from the Federal Government amnesty programme, but later turned rogue. He is said to be responsible for the abduction of the Turkish national and a staff of Rivigo Construction Company in Port Harcourt as well as the murder of several policemen and civilians in the recent past.

Spokesman of the State Police Command, Ben Ugwuegbulam (DSP), who confirmed the killing and arrest of the suspected kidnappers, said the operation was carried out at about 2.50am yesterday following a tip-off.

A statement by Ugwuegbulam yesterday said: "Today (Friday) 02/11/12 at about 0250hrs, following investigation into the kidnap of one Biram Karakus a Turkish National and staff of Rivigo Construction Company, Port Harcourt, a combined team of operatives of the Rivers State Police command and Brigade AKU, stormed the militant camp of a notorious gang also responsible for kidnapping, armed robbery, killing of Policemen / civilians in recent past in Kaani in Ogoni .

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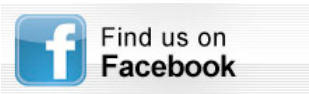
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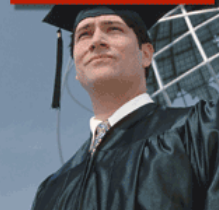
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